Honor Among NEETs

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Honor Among NEETs

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Summary

In which Izuku loudly informs Shigaraki that he does *not* have time for the USJ Incident, actually-

-and accidentally breaks the unspoken boundary between online and offline that any internet dweller would normally respect. Oops.

Notes

Originally written at least a year ago, idk when exactly but I just rediscovered it in one of my many wip documents lol

See the end of the work for more notes

Oh, hell no. Izuku dashed up to the plaza, calling on One For All. *Aizawa-sensei is **not** getting PK'd on my watch.* He might only manage one or two hits before he ran out of working limbs, but-

Wait a second.

"Damn it, I can't break anything today!" Izuku shouted, stopping before he got within range. The Noumu's head swivelled in his direction, as did that of the villain, Shigaraki. "There's a raid tonight, I need my arms and my hands in working order - but how else am I supposed to win-?"

"Tch." Izuku looked up - Shigaraki was coming closer, condescension in his very bearing. "What MMO guild would let a hero wannabe *brat* like you in?"

How fucking dare he? This miniboss NPC - Izuku bared his teeth in a feral snarl. "Only the top guild in All For You, that's who!" He drew himself to his full height, not that he was exactly *tall* but it was the spirit of it. "And I am *not* letting Duster down!"

Shigaraki froze, a few feet from him. "...Duster from *Action Squad?"*

"HELL YEAH!"

A hand, splayed in his face. "Hold the fuck up. Like. Shut up. Are you *Faultless?"*

Wha- how did he know-

"FUCKING HELL, FAULTLESS!" Shigaraki shouted in his face, gesturing dramatically as he spoke. " *THIS* IS WHY YOU SAID YOU WOULDN'T BE ON FOR LAST NIGHT'S PRACTICE RUN?"

Oh, shit. "I- I mean-"

"🅱RUH!" Shigaraki actually pronounced the B emoji. "The roster *only works* with you there to tank and dump AOE debuffs and stunlock the minibosses! It takes *three* of those idiots to cover for you - I spent fucking *weeks* doing data analysis and testing strats and *hoarding those fucking daily quest potions* and YOU'RE OUT THERE IN GODDAMN *HERO* SCHOOL?"

His face was inches from Izuku's, and at this proximity, Izuku finally recognized the voice that had his ears ringing-

"...Duster?"

Shigaraki - *Duster, his guild leader* - screamed in inarticulate rage, storming in a circle just like his character did when rare loot didn't drop. But Izuku's entire mood had gone from terrified to terrific in less than a minute. He stepped closer, feeling the manic grin spreading across his face. "Duster," he giggled, "hey, hey, Duster hey-"

"WHAT?"

"I bought the cash shop item you wanted on the bus ride over here," Izuku singsonged, mimicking holding his phone (which was safely stored on the bus). "And you know what that means…"

It meant *upgrading custom weapons without wasting a day in the solo dungeon,* and it had stopped Shigaraki in his tracks. "Faultless-" he began, wide-eyed.

"So if you want me to be able to trade it to you before the Tower raid today," Izuku crossed his arms, tilting his head in the direction of the Noumu (which had stopped slamming Aizawa-sensei into the concrete and was just limply holding him on the ground)-

The answer was obvious, really. "Fuck it. EVERYONE RETREAT," Shigaraki shouted at the League. A portal opened next to the Noumu. "You had *better* show up for the raid tonight, Faultless, or I *will* find you," Shigaraki declared, which was slightly more menacing a promise than it had been the last few times, now that Izuku knew he had a warp quirk user at his disposal.

Still, this was *Duster.* His guild leader, yeah - and his best friend. "Damn right," he laughed, and reached out to clasp arms with Shigaraki the way they did in the game. "See ya, Duster. I'll ping you on Clamor when the cops let me go home."

That got him a nod, before Shigaraki and his crew portaled out of USJ.

Mere seconds later, the gate burst open to reveal the heroes, just barely too late to catch him.

End Notes

"All For You" is a reference to AMournfulHowlInTheNight's *A Helping Hand in the Dark* which I absolutely recommend to anyone who hasn't read it, it is a defining crackfic in my BNHA fandom experience.

Clamor is a parody name for Discord and a reference to Gentrychild's *Anyone* which is also a defining crackfic in my BNHA fandom experience, but in the crack-treated-seriously tag I think. I love it.

Works inspired by this one

[Restricted Work] by MelancholyMorningstar

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